

AskOxford: clamp

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Compact Oxford English Dictionary

clamp

- noun a brace, band, or clasp for strengthening or holding things together.
- verb 1 fasten in place or together with a clamp. 2 (clamp down) suppress or prevent something. 3 fit a wheel clamp to (an illegally parked car).
- DERIVATIVES **clamper** noun.
- ORIGIN probably Dutch and related to CLAM.

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clamp[1,noun]
clamp[2,transitive verb]
C-clamp
clamp down

GoMain Entry: ²**clamp**Function: *transitive verb*

1 : to fasten with or as if with a clamp
2 a : to place by decree : **IMPOSE** — often used with *on*
<*clamped* on a curfew after the riots> b : to hold tightly

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clamp **Pronunciation Key:** (klāmp)
n.

1. Any of various devices used to join, grip, support, or compress mechanical or structural parts.
2. Any of various tools with opposing, often adjustable sides or parts for bracing objects or holding them together.

tr. v. clamped, clamp·ing, clamps

1. To fasten, grip, or support with or as if with a clamp.
2. To establish by authority; impose: *clamped a tax on imports*.

Phrasal Verb:
clamp down

To become more strict or repressive; impose controls: *clamping down on environment polluters*.

[Middle English, from Middle Dutch *klampe*.]

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clamp (klămp)*n.*

An instrument for the compression or grasping of a structure.

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Main Entry: ¹**clamp**

Pronunciation: 'klamp

Function: *noun*

: any of various instruments or appliances having parts brought together for holding or compressing something; *especially* : an instrument used to hold, compress, or crush vessels and hollow organs and to aid in surgical excision of parts

Source: *Merriam-Webster Medical Dictionary*, © 2002 Merriam-Webster.
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Main Entry: ²**clamp**

Function: *transitive verb*

: to fasten with or as if with a clamp <the ligaments are *clamped* as usual and all excess stump is cut off flush with the hysterectomy clamp —R. C. Long>

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clamp

n : a device (used by carpenters) that holds things firmly together *v 1* : fasten or fix with a clamp; "clamp the chair together until the glue has hardened" *2* : impose or inflict forcefully; "The military government clamped a curfew onto the capital"

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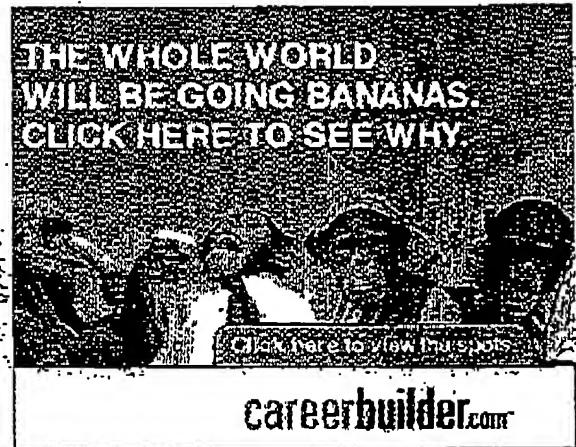
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